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12 DEC 1963

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ADM-14

MEMORANDUM FOR: Special Assistant to the Deputy Director
Science & Technology

SUBJECT: Dissemination of DOD Contractor Reports
to OSI

1. This is a preliminary report of our investigation of the dissemination of DOD contractor reports to OSI. This is a difficult matter to check because such reports are received by OSI through a number of official or semi-official channels, including the OCR Documents Division, OCI and directly to OSI by registered mail. In addition, since such reports are prepared by private firms, they are not necessarily logged by the Documents Division but may be routed by the batch system according to standing reading requirements.

2. In an attempt to arrive at some facts, we have begun a specific check of the receipt of reports from one DOD contractor. This project [REDACTED] was chosen since it is concerned with the missile/space fields and it might therefore be assumed that reports would be withheld in this case rather than in lower priority or less controversial areas. Thus far we have found that a total of at least 22 technical reports have been forwarded from the contractor to OSI by registered mail since 1 January 1963. Less definitive checks elsewhere within OSI clearly demonstrate that a relatively large number and variety of DOD contractor reports are being received on an apparently regular basis.

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3. At this point we are unable to ascertain with any degree of certainty whether selected reports are withheld or, as a matter of fact, all reports of some contractors are not being received. It appears likely that much information produced by contractors is not disseminated as contractor reports but is combined with other information and published in the reports series of the agency concerned. OSI follows this practice with respect to a number of our own contractor reports.

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4. In any event, the problem of the availability of information produced by DOD contractors has been with us in the past and it is our intention at this point to attempt to size the problem finally and definitely if, in fact, a problem exists. To this end we will maintain logs on all DOD contractor reports received by OSI through any channel for the next several months. It should then be possible to point up gaps with respect to individual reports as well as series of reports which we may not be receiving.

5. Since we are being pressed for a statement now, however, I would have to conclude that neither DOD nor OSI has much cause for complaint at present, although one can undoubtedly find specific instances where a report has been withheld for one reason or another.

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Acting Assistant Director
Scientific Intelligence

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